

RECEIVED

July 27, 2006

Mayor and Council

City of Santa Barbara

JUL 27 2006
8:40 pm
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
SANTA BARBARA, CA

Dear Mayor and Council,

My name is Carolyn Griffith. My husband's name is Robert Taylor. We live at 219 Vista De La Cumbre. We wish to appeal the proposed project at 216 E. Calle Laureles.

We wish to appeal the Architectural Board of Review's decision regarding the Calle Laureles project for the following reason: The issue of compatability of the second story deck was not addressed. In our subdivision of 116 homes there is one other covered second story patio. It is much smaller and faces the street. Second story decks such as designed in this project do not currently exist in our neighborhood. This plan introduces a new architectural feature to our neighborhood. It is a feature that detracts significantly from the privacy of others, while adding minimally to the living space of the applicant.

We understand that this element has caused a great deal of conflict on the mesa. Our neighborhood does not have ocean views. There are some partial mountain views, but primarily the views to be gained will be those of surrounding neighbors' yards.

The Architectural Board of Review did not respond to our concern that this is not a feature in surrounding homes, and it is not compatible with our neighborhood.

During hearings, The ABR requested photos taken from the roof of the current house, where the deck is proposed. We saw only photos that appeared to have been taken from ground level. We would like to make sure that decision makers have the appropriate information.

This is an area of predominantly single story homes with small Floor Area Ratios. I don't believe the introduction of large second story decks facing rear yard neighbors serves our community or is compatible with our neighborhood.

Sincerely,


Carolyn Griffith

Robert Taylor

219 Vista De La Cumbre

CC: City Administrator, City Attorney, Community Development Director,
Santa Barbara, CA 93105

Planning Division,
7/28/06 LC

563-2913

963-6901 (Robert, work)

630-6399 (Carolyn, work)